NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE
NEWS

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NLM Regents Meet

The Board of Regents of the National Library of Medicine convened their thirty-eighth meeting at the Library March 23, 1971. Board Chairman Robert H. Ebert,M.D., Dean of the Harvard Medical School, presided.

Highlights of the two-day meeting included presentation of a plaque to Dr. Ruth M. Davis, the first Director of the Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications, for her exceptional management and technical contributions; remarks by NIH Director, Dr. Robert Q. Marston and Dr. Raymond Moore, Special Assistant, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health and Scientific Affairs; and reports on specific NLM program plans and accomplishments by NLM Director Martin M. Cummings, M.D., and other members of the Library staff.

NLM Catalog Cards to be Available

The National Library of Medicine has completed negotiations with Bro-Dart, Inc. of Williamsport, Pennsylvania, for the commercial production and distribution of NLM catalog card sets. The decision to seek a vendor for this service came in response to requests from the biomedical library community, which has for some time sought to receive NLM's cataloging data in card format.

The primary consideration throughout negotiations, which began late in 1970, was to obtain highest-quality cards at a reasonable price. The cost of sets will begin at $.35 for 3 SAT sets (including cross-references) for English-language titles added to the NLM data base from the time the service is initiated. A subscription to all English-language titles cataloged in a year, roughly 10,000 items, will cost approximately $3,500.00. Cards will be available in the standard NLM format. At a slightly higher cost per set, cards may be available with classification numbers omitted; with subject headings overprinted; or with classification numbers and all tracings omitted. Other variations will be considered, based upon the response to a questionnaire Bro-Dart is circulating to biomedical libraries.

Card sets may be ordered by subscription or selectively, with no minimum number of orders required for the latter method. At present, cards must be ordered by NLM citation number, but Bro-Dart will explore other methods of ordering, including main entry and subject heading. Subscribing to sets in various subject disciplines, such as dentistry, veterinary science, and nursing, remains a possibility at a later date.

Bro-Dart and NLM are working with biomedical publishers to coordinate, expedite,

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NMAC Holds Television and Learning Spaces Workshops

As a part of its continuing training program in support of medical education, NMAC conducted two seminar-workshops on "Television in the Medical Environment" during the weeks of April 5-9 and 12-16. The purpose of these workshops was to give participants practical experience in the fundamentals of effective television planning and production.

The 27 attendees during the first week represented 14 schools of medicine and dentistry, three hospitals (including one in Canada), and five agencies of the Federal Government. The 28 attendees during the second week represented 14 schools of nursing, two schools of medicine and dentistry, four Veterans' Administration hospitals, one state health department, and one government agency.

The first two days of each session included formal presentations by members of NMAC's Educational Research and Training Branch, Media Development and Training Section, and question-and-answer periods. During the second week, in addition to NMAC staff, Mrs. Rhoda Bowen, Associate Professor, Wayne State University College of Nursing, made a presentation on "Teaming Up with Television." During the next two days, participants were assigned to teams, each of which planned and produced a short videotape presentation. On the last day, the videotaped sequences were evaluated for production quality.

The National Medical Audiovisual Center also held a seminar-workshop on "Learning Spaces" April 26-28. Its purpose was to provide participants with an awareness of basic educational, environmental, and esthetic considerations for learning spaces, including lecture facilities, classrooms, conference and seminar rooms, and independent and self-directed study areas.

Registrants included representatives of nine schools of medicine and allied health sciences, four schools of dentistry, three schools of veterinary medicine, three schools of nursing, and six medical school libraries.

New Bibliography of Medical Bibliographies Available

A second pilot issue of the *Bibliography of Medical Bibliographies (BMB)* has been issued by the Health Sciences Bibliographic Clearinghouse, a unit of the Reference Section, Reference Services Division. The *BMB* reports NLM Literature Searches, bibliographies prepared by specialized information centers, bibliographies published in books and journals or as separate publications, and unpublished bibliographies from medical libraries.

This second pilot issue lists those bibliographies compiled or updated from 1967 to 1970 that were added to the Clearinghouse file from June to December 1970. Regularly recurring bibliographies have been omitted, as have been review articles already

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(Bibliographies,from Page 2)

indexed in the *Bibliography of Medical Reviews*.

The *Bibliography of Medical Bibliographies* comprises a citation section, containing descriptive and source information, and a keyword-in-context (KWIC) index, containing titles and a select number of subject headings. An alphanumeric reference code directs the user from the KWIC index to the full reference in the citation section.

Single copies of the new *BMB* may be requested from the Health Sciences Bibliographic Clearinghouse, Reference Section, Reference Services Division, National Library of Medicine, 8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland 20014. Comments and suggestions from users will be welcome.

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and increase the flow of commercially published English-language monographs to the Library. In the near future, Bro-Dart hopes to be able to provide finished card sets with books at the time they are supplied to libraries.

The service is scheduled to begin on June 1, 1971. Write to NLM Card Service, Bro-Dart, Inc., Box 923, Williamsport, Pennsylvania 17701, for additional information.

AIM-TWX/MEDLARS Workshop

About 80 people (including NLM staff) assembled at the Library on April 1 and 2 for a detailed appraisal of NLM's AIM-TWX experimental service, an exploration of future on-line search capabilities, and consideration of several aspects of MEDLARS II. Attendees represented both MEDLARS centers and medical school, hospital, and other libraries participating in the AIM-TWX service.

Following an AIM-TWX status report by Mr. Davis B. McCarn, Acting Director, Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications, Mr. F. W. Lancaster, Graduate School of Library Science, University of Illinois, spoke on his recent evaluation of user responses to the AIM-TWX service, and Dr. Joseph Leiter, Associate Director for Library Operations, NLM, spoke on expansion of the AIM-TWX data base.

A panel discussion on "Experience with AIM-TWX to Date," chaired by Dr. Clifford A. Bachrach, Chief, Bibliographic Services Division, NLM, included as participants Esther Wei, Ohio State University MEDLARS Center, Kathy Jones, University of Alabama MEDLARS Center, Paul Hanson, UCLA MEDLARS Center, and Edith Blair, Reference Section, NLM.

Other presentations were talks on "Training for On-Line Users" and "On-Line versus 'Regular' MEDLARS Searching," both by Mrs. Joy Stiller, MEDLARS Management Section, NLM, and "On-Line Experience in the United Kingdom," by Dr. Anthony Harley, U.K. MEDLARS Service, Boston Spa, England. Mr. William H. Caldwell, Deputy Chief, Bibliographic Services Division, NLM, spoke on "MEDLARS II Searching," Dr. Norman P. Shumway, Head, MeSH Section, BSD, on "MEDLARS II Vocabulary," and Dr. Raquel Halegua, Office of the Associate Director for Library Operations, NLM, on "User Orientation Packages."

Toxicology Information Query Response Center

The Toxicology Information Program, Specialized Information Services, NLM, has reached an agreement with the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) of the Atomic Energy Commission to establish a Toxicology Information Query Response Center (TIQRC) as part of the Laboratory's Environmental Information System. The Center is designed to be a service arm of the Toxicology Information Program -- performing in-depth literature searches in response to requests from the public.

The Oak Ridge National Laboratory was selected for the site of the query response and service center because the Laboratory already operates some fourteen information analysis centers which work on the principle of using scientists from the laboratories in information work on an ad hoc, part-time basis. A wide spectrum of scientific disciplines are represented at the Laboratory, and there are extensive library and computer facilities.

The Toxicology Information Query Response Center will draw on all of the information resources being created by NLM's Toxicology Information Program, either through a transfer of tapes or through on-line terminals. Using existing facilities at ORNL, the Center will also have access to most of the commercial literature tape services which are now available (e.g., CA Condensates, CBAC, BIOSIS tapes, Nuclear Science Abstracts, Engineering Index, etc.). It is expected that requests for services will come to TIQRC either directly through the Toxicology Information Program, or through NLM's Reference Section.

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